ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2012 Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery News Release 28 Kuskokwim River Subdistrict 1-A to open for Commercial Salmon Fishing

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Bethel for subsistence and commercial salmon fishermen in the Kuskokwim Management Area.

Subdistrict 1-A

Subdistrict 1-A within District 1 will open to commercial salmon fishing for 6 hours from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 24, 2012.

Processing capacity for this commercial fishing period is limited. Fishermen are reminded to register with Kuskokwim Seafoods (543-5700) prior to fishing.

The hours for subsistence closures adjacent to periods of commercial fishing on the Kuskokwim River are 6 hours before, during, and 3 hours after commercial fishing. Therefore, from 5:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Friday, August 24, subsistence salmon fishing in the Kuskokwim River will be closed from Bogus Creek downstream to a line between Oscarville and Napaskiak.

Preliminary harvest information from the August 21 commercial period in District 1 was 8,315 coho; 21 chum; and 4 sockeye salmon from 164 permit holders. The coho salmon harvest and catch rate was below average for that date.

The Department does not anticipate announcing any further commercial fishing periods in District 1 for the remainder of the 2012 commercial fishing season. The abundance of coho salmon has tapered off as indicated by Bethel Test Fish indices and commercial catches this season have been average to below average, therefore the remainder of the run will be allowed to pass for escapement.

Further announcements will be made from the Bethel ADF&G office, on the state web site (http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main), and local radio stations. News releases will be faxed to area villages and local fish processing companies.

For additional information concerning this news release:

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